

REMARKS / ARGUMENTS

Status of Claims

Claims 1-16 are pending in the application with claims 1-12, and 16-17 standing rejected and claims 13-15 being allowed by the Examiner. Applicant submits that claims 1-12 and 16-17 have been cancelled, and therefore, claims 13-15 are left for consideration by the Examiner upon entry of this Amendment.

Applicant respectfully submits that in this fully responsive reply the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) have been traversed, no new matter has been entered, and the subject application is in condition for allowance. Therefore, reconsideration of the pending rejections and favorable allowance of the subject application are earnestly solicited.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants thank the Examiner for indication that claims 13-15 contain allowable subject matter, and that they have been allowed.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 1, 2, 6, and 16 (Lee and Chevassus)

Claims 1, 2, 6, and 16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lee (U.S. Publication No. 2003/0016417 A1, hereinafter Lee) in view of Chevassus et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,342,878, hereinafter Chevassus). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Applicants submit that claims 1, 2, 6, and 16 have been cancelled, and thus this rejection has been rendered moot. Applicants respectfully request the Examiner withdraw this rejection.

Claims 3-5 (Lee, Chevassus, and Reid)

Claims 3-5 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Lee in view of Chevassus and further in view of Reid et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,853,365, hereinafter Reid). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Applicants submit that claims 3-5 have been cancelled, thereby rendering this rejection moot. Applicants respectfully request the Examiner withdraw this rejection.

Claims 7-12 (Lee, Chevassus, and Zagnoev)

Claims 7-12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Lee in view of Chevassus and further in view of Zagnoev (U.S. Publication No. 2003/0090394, hereinafter Zagnoev). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Applicants submit that claims 7-12 have been cancelled, thereby rendering this rejection moot. Applicants respectfully request the Examiner withdraw this rejection.

Summary of Arguments of Pending Rejections

In summary, Applicants respectfully submit that because claims 1-12 and 16 have been cancelled, the pending rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103 have been rendered moot. Furthermore, the Examiner has allowed claims 13-15. Therefore, the subject application is in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

In view of above remarks, withdrawal of the outstanding rejections and allowance of the subject application is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes that communication with Applicant's Representatives would assist in advancing this case to allowance, the Examiner is cordially invited to contact the undersigned so that any such issues may be promptly resolved.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees that may be required for this amendment, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 06-1130.

In the event that an extension of time is required, or may be required in addition to that requested in a petition for extension of time, the Commissioner is requested to grant a petition for that extension of time that is required to make this response timely and is hereby authorized to charge any fee for such an extension of time or credit any overpayment for an extension of time to the above-identified Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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